14th Saturday after Pentecost



September 13, 2025 5:00 pm St. Paul's Amherst Campus

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Amherst Campus 14th Saturday after Pentecost September 13, 2025

Musician: Adam Schmidt



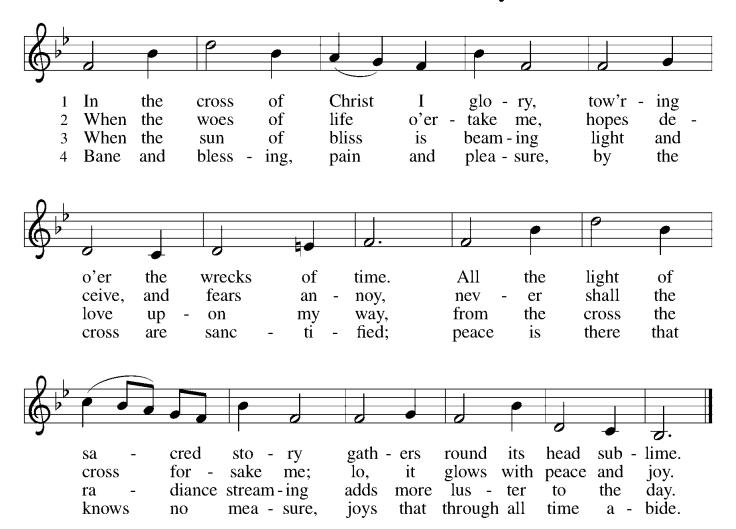


Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be God, the Holy Trinity + the giver of all good, the source of all joy. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- God of all, You have given us all that we need and you ask that we share your abundance. We confess that we have not responded to your call to be open channels of your grace. We clench our fists when you ask for open hands; we close our minds when you ask for grace toward our neighbors. Open our hearts to live in the abundance of your creation; loosen our grip and restore our souls, that we may freely give and receive. Amen.
- P Beloved in Christ, God makes all things new. In the name of Christ, + you are forgiven. Your hearts are unlocked; your grasping is unbound. You are free to live as flowing streams of God's abundant grace.
- C Amen.

Gathering Hymn: LBW 104

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



Apostolic Greeting

- P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

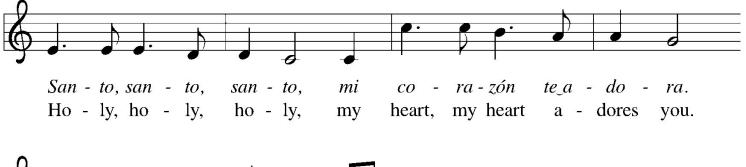
Prayer of the Day

P O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Praise Hymn: ELW 473

Holy, Holy, Holy Santo, santo, santo





Text: Argentine traditional

Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

First Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.



Psalm 51:1-10 (read responsively)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. (Ps. 51:1)

- A Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- C Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.
- A For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.
- C Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.
- A Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.
- C Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.
- A Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- C Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- A Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.
- C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.



- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 15th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Sermon Hymn: LBW 107

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

Apostle's Creed

- P With the whole church, let us confess our faith together:
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the Church

- P Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need. (Please be seated.)
 - Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- P Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- P Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- P Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. God of grace,

- C receive our prayer.
- P Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- P Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life. Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
- C Amen.

Ways to Give to St. Paul's:

Options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- Giving by Mail: Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/





Offering Hymn: WOV Page 35



Offering Prayer

- P Let us pray.
- C Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor. May the gifts we offer here and in our planned giving be used for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen



Dialogue and Preface

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and speak their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

C Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

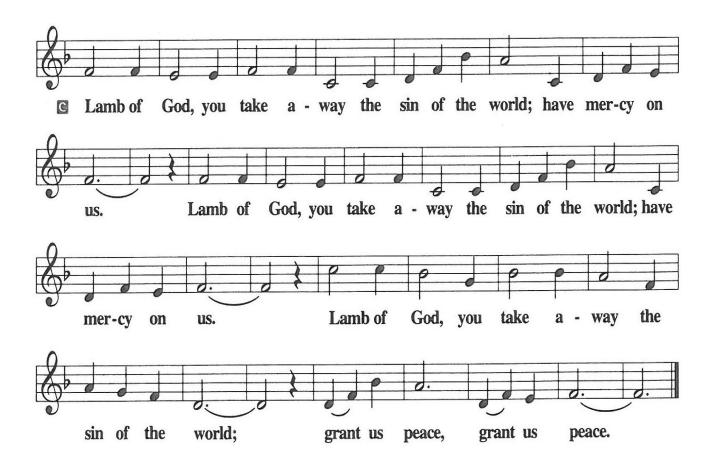
- P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
 - Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

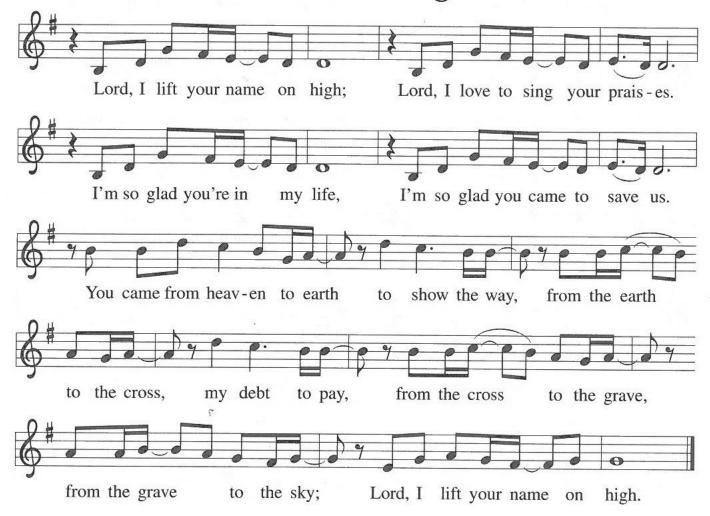
- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all. Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the Assisting Minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

Communion Hymn: WOV Page 39



Lord, I Lift Your Name on High



Communion Blessing

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

- P O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.
- C Amen.

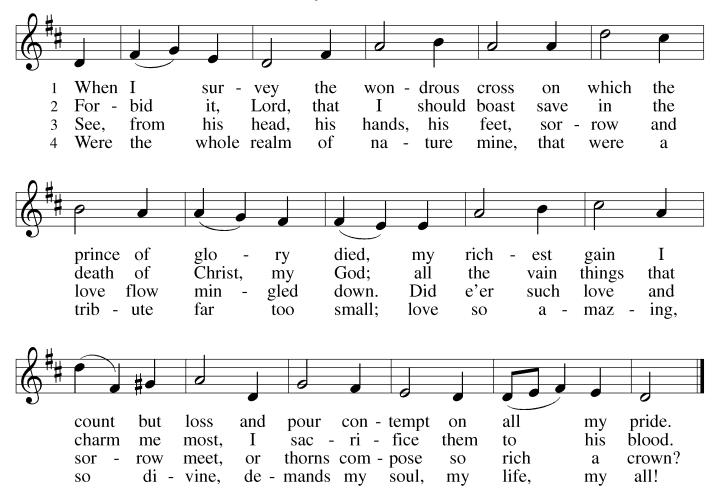
Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen

Closing Hymn: LBW 482

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, adapt. Edward Miller, 1731–1807

Dismissal

- P Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
- C Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: September 14-21, 2025

Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus

Sunday: 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum: "Another Look at the 1619 Project From a Different

Point of View"

9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School with Backpack Blessing

10:00 am: Middle School Sunday for Grades 6-12

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Monday: 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share

5:30-9:30 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC

Tuesday: 9:30 am-12:30 pm: Way To Go Tour Meeting in Gathering Area

10:00 am: Bible Study: "A Look at the Jewish Jesus Through the Lens of Scripture"

10:00 am: Ministerium Conference in Parish Hall

5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)

6:00 pm: Burrito Project 7:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale

Wednesday: 12:00 pm: New Beginnings

6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group at AC

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

Thursday: 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open

Friday: No Events Planned

Saturday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC

1:00-4:00 pm: Memorial Service for David Lampe in Parish Hall

5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC

Sunday: 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum

9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School

10:45 am: Congregational Meeting following Sunday Worship Service to Vote on sale

price and buyer for Amherst Campus

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Joyce Chace; Elaine Masman; Pastor Ray Clifton; John Cole (in need of a kidney donor and a friend of Andrea Jarvis); Lavon Amos; Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; Marian Coco Reilly; David Schunak; Kate Kopasz and Lynda Lo Tempio (Phyllis Campbell's nieces); Sylvia McLaughlin; Julia Jarvis (Andrea Jarvis' daughter); Sue Epstein

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D127, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Joan Maefs: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #136, East Amherst, NY 14051

Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, Room 251, Williamsville, NY 14221

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221

Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221

Charles Scofield: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #228, Williamsville, NY 14221

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY 14226

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

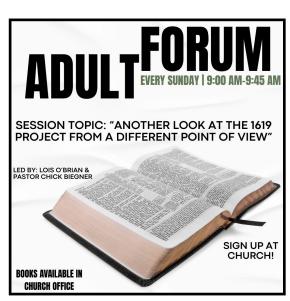
Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Prayer Team Ministry: Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2025 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The pantry hours for September are: Thursday 9/18 from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturday 9/27 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for September: juice boxes and canned pineapple.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Congregational Meeting will be held on:

Sunday, September 21

(following the 10:00 am worship service)

to vote on the sale price and buyer of the Amherst Campus.





9/11

In the heart of the city's din,
Where once great towers did stand,
Echoes of memories begin,
Resilient, hand in hand.

Silhouettes against the sky, Stories of the brave that day, Heroes rose, not asking why, In the face of disarray.

From ashes rose a stronger bond, Unity and love declared, For in memory, we respond, In grief, together we cared.

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+ St. Paul's Mission + To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives, and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Robert Simpson Vice-President: Tim Johnson Treasurer: William Niblock Secretary: Scott Vahue yn David Dahlberg Susan Epstein

Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter

Pastors

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com Kristen Arends: Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

<u>Directors of Music</u>: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette: scs@stpaulseggertsvlle.com

<u>Youth Ministry</u>: Jordan Dywan: youth@stpaulseggrtsville.com

<u>Digital Ministry</u>: Andrew Gruszka

<u>Facilities Manager</u>: Jeff Stein

Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus 4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am

St. Paul's Amherst Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm